First Regional Resilience Dashboard Seminar
December 8, 2015
Glen Allen, VA

This event was intended to support the project's overall goal of developing a model process that will enable communities to assess resilience by considering their unique indicators. The first in a series of seminars, this event engaged over 75 experts and stakeholders to develop resiliency indicators by identifying applicable strategies, policies, programs, threats and opportunities that contribute to community resilience.

Program

Federal, local, state, and non-governmental organizations impacting resilience indicators.

- A categorization of programs and funding available to communities should be developed. Consider customizing a current framework.
- Develop statewide standards (relative measurements) that allow projects and communities to specify their own measures.

Next Steps:
- Develop the list of program and funding categories and cross reference with the indicators developed through this project.

Community

Factors to be considered when evaluating the resiliency of a community understanding that there are essential and unique indicators in every community.

A framework of resilience and risk indicators were developed with the following categories:

Risk/Threat Indicators:
- Natural
    - Environmental/Weather
    - Pandemic/Epidemic
- Man-made
    - Act of terror
    - Cyber attack
    - Catastrophic accident
    - Act of violence

Resilience Indicators:
- Infrastructure/Essential Services –
    - Utilities
    - Transportation

- o Communications
- o Safety facilities/Medical
- Contingency Planning/Preparedness – preliminary or emergency resilience
    - o Communications
    - o Community wide planning
    - o Citizen Preparedness
- Economic Vitality
    - o Poverty rate
    - o Industry diversification
    - o Educational obtainment
    - o Per capital income
    - o Insurance coverage ratios
    - o Renters vs. home owners
    - o Population growth rate
    - o Regional GDP growth rate
    - o Number of physicians per population
- Social Indicators/Demographics
    - o Population/density of an area
    - o Age
    - o Community network availability
    - o Language barriers (ESL percentage)
    - o Health/ability challenged population
    - o Rural vs. urban vs. suburban
    - o Public services density (fire, ems, healthcare)
- Other
    - o Partnership of communities with neighboring communities
    - o Do you have full time or part time/volunteer emergency responders?
    - o Is your community already using the existing tools? Why or why not?
    - o Social Cohesion
- Non-government groups are very important to fill in gaps that state/localities can't provide

Next steps:
The indicators should be compared to other indicator matrices in use and a list of groups providing aid should be developed.

Best Practices
Best practices displayed at the federal, commonwealth, regional and local level.

- Absolutely key to have a unity of purpose and a common goal in bringing people together.
- It can be tough to get people together – complacency is the enemy.
- Communication is key/Complacency is the enemy

Next Steps:

- Review best practices cases developed by the group to pull out best practices and indicators to be leveraged in the other domain areas.

Knowledge Management

Information and components necessary to build a dashboard requirements document.

- Tools must drive towards outcomes.
- Understand what products/data is available and fill in gaps
- Who are the user groups?
- Dashboard cannot be just an IT took, but a way to bring community together

Next Steps:
- Research all tools and comb for requirements to be vetted by future seminar participants.
- Categorize the data – what else is out there?
- Consult a few "experts" to get early stage models for consideration

Policy

Ensuring policy and programs are in line with strategic guidance.

- Identify the areas needed for policies and develop categories of policies related to resilience and build out from there.
- Ensure that the focus on policy is balanced. (i.e., do not focus on only one component of resilience such as emergency management).
- There are lots of things going on, but not necessarily being done in the name of resilience. Many laws, policies, codes, just not in the name of resilience, and not in conjunction with each other.

Next steps:
- Identify what the "policy" end product should be.
- Validate the policy categories developed in Seminar 1.